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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 23, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 18 totaled 339,151, down 1.3 percent from the corresponding week of 1989 but 1.0 percent above the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 0.7 percent in the West but down 3.0 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, loadings of chemicals were up 1,479 cars (5.4 percent), while loadings of metals and products were up 1,706 cars (19.7 percent). Loadings of metallic ores were down 3,618 cars (17.5 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 33 weeks of 1990 totaled 11,136,916, up 1.3 percent from the comparable period of 1989.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- not included in the carloadings -- totaled 120,277 trailers and/or containers for the week ended August 18, up 3.1 percent from 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 33 weeks of 1990 was 3,857,305 trailers and/or containers, 3.5 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended August 18 totaled 20.6 billion, up 1.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 33 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 660.5 billion ton-miles, up 4.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 18, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING AUGUST 18, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	26,750	25,815	3.6 %	26,333	1.6 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	869	894	-2.8	830	4.7
Metallic Ores	17,014	20,632	-17.5	15,168	12.2
Coal	132,319	132,647	-.2	130,373	1.5
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	16,796	16,623	1.0	17,965	-6.5
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,564	11,115	-23.0	10,657	-19.6
Grain Mill Products	10,308	9,761	5.6	9,962	3.5
Food & Kindred Products	8,740	8,890	-1.7	8,423	3.8
Primary Forest Products	9,666	10,318	-6.3	10,033	-3.7
Lumber & Wood Products	5,895	6,610	-10.8	5,956	-1.0
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,381	10,060	3.2	10,273	1.1
Chemicals	28,660	27,181	5.4	27,520	4.1
Petroleum Products	5,311	5,031	5.6	5,476	-3.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,700	11,321	-5.5	10,385	3.0
Coke	6,166	5,136	20.1	5,842	5.5
Metals & Products	10,344	8,638	19.7	9,633	7.4
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	15,651	17,576	-11.0	15,732	-.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,650	8,284	4.4	8,841	-2.2
All Other Carloads	6,367	7,064	-9.9	6,508	-2.2
Total	**339,151**	**343,596**	**-1.3 %**	**335,910**	**1.0 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING AUGUST 18, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 33 WEEKS ENDING AUGUST 18, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**339,151**	**343,596**	**-1.3 %**	**11,136,916**	**10,993,098**	**1.3 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	64,074	65,261	-1.8	2,160,028	2,175,050	-.7
Containers	56,203	51,399	9.3	1,697,277	1,551,386	9.4
Total	**120,277**	**116,660**	**3.1**	**3,857,305**	**3,726,436**	**3.5**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**20.6**	**20.3**	**1.5 %**	**660.5**	**633.8**	**4.2 %**